

## **ECOS PFAS Coordinating Committee Call**

October 31, 2018, 2 p.m. Eastern

**State Partners** - Marty Suuberg (MA), Heidi Grether (MI), John Stine (MN), Catherine McCabe (NJ), Bonnie Buthker (OH), Scott Thompson (OK), Peter Walke (VT)

**Federal Partners**- Maureen Sullivan (DoD), Peter Grevatt (EPA OGWDW), Andy Gillespie (EPA ORD), Randall Lovell (FDA), Chris Weiss (NIEHS), Donna Knutson (CDC/ATSDR), Chris Reh (CDC/ATSDR)

**ECOS** - Sarah Grace Longworth, Carolyn Hanson

### **Overall**

ECOS described its plan for initiating work among members of its PFAS Caucus (an ECOS-led effort for state and federal agency staff, state media associations, and NGOs to share information and experiences on policy and regulation). As the Caucus will center its work around gaps in PFAS regulation, Sarah Grace talked about how ECOS plans to figure out where the gaps are, via a state activities assessment for the Caucus. This effort is still developing; more information to come.

### **State Updates**

#### **1. Massachusetts**

- a. MA is determining the need to revise drinking water guidelines and cleanup standards.
- b. MA DEP received a petition from the Conservation Law Foundation requesting the agency to adopt a treatment technique drinking water standard, among several other activities. MA is figuring out what this would mean and how they plan to respond to the letter.

#### **2. Michigan**

- a. MI is continuing to test its 1,841 public water systems and schools that operate their own wells. As they were moving from bigger to smaller systems, DEQ recently found that many daycares had not been tested. Last week, they found PFAS at an elementary school in a rural area and are trying to determine the source.
- b. MI found high levels of PFAS in deer tissue in a marsh. They put out a Do Not Eat advisory within 5 miles of the site.
- c. MI is working to get supplemental funding to expand its testing and response efforts.
- d. MI's Governor will depart at the end of the year. As many agency leaders will change, DEQ is preparing a playbook to help next administration continue the state's PFAS response efforts.

#### **3. Minnesota**

- a. MN is still working with the 10-12 East Metropolitan groups to decide how to spend the 3M settlement money to get rid of PFAS in their communities.
- 4. **New Jersey**
  - a. Nothing new to report in NJ. Since it passed its MCL for PFNA this fall, the state is awaiting testing results in the next year, and has to look at passing a rule for water system reporting requirements.
- 5. **Ohio**
  - a. OH is drafting a response strategy for PFAS in drinking water systems.
  - b. OH also has a new incoming Governor, so OH EPA will draft a PFAS strategy to aid in that transition.
- 6. **Oklahoma**
  - a. No new updates to share.
  - b. Scott Thompson noted that he recently saw a video on fire suppression in a hangar (with lots of foam), and asked the group if someone is working on testing of that or if anyone has had conversations with FAA about requirements to reduce the frequency of those tests. Maureen Sullivan noted that DoD is not testing systems like that and is trying to use water for training where possible. Heidi Grether said MI has partnered with the state's fire marshal to examine this issue; many firefighters in MI are not practicing with foam if they don't have to, but that this is still an important issue to follow up on.
- 7. **Vermont**
  - a. VT received the same petition as MA from the Conservation Law Foundation and is trying to figure out if the requests are feasible.
  - b. VT is permitting an existing landfill in which the leachate has PFAS and is traveling downstream to wastewater treatment plants. One of the plants is unwilling to discuss it. VT expects to continue to deal with communities unwilling to discuss PFAS and voting to not accept anymore. VT is not sure what to do if landfills can't unload the leachate.

## **Federal Updates**

- 1. **DoD**
  - a. Nothing new to report.
- 2. **EPA**
  - a. EPA is continuing work on its PFAS Management Plan, which is still slated for completion by the end of the year.
  - b. OW's draft toxicity values for GenX and PFBS are in interagency review moving towards posting for a public comment period.

- c. ORD is almost done testing its Method 537 for short chain use. It will publicize the results in the next few weeks. Short chain compounds include GenX.

3. **CDC/ATSDR**

- a. ATSDR is continuing its toxicological studies. The tox profile is back in the agency from external review.
- b. ATSDR is continuing to determine which 8 communities it will select for its exposure assessment study. The sites will be finalized after January 1.
- c. The agency is looking into protocol for fees and a multi-site study, as well as the use of Class A foams in the depopulation of poultry affected by diseases. Does anyone have experience with this-- do the foams used to depopulate the chickens/turkeys contain PFAS?

4. **NIEHS**

- a. NIEHS met in RTP to share information on health effects of PFAS based on their coordination efforts worldwide. They will share this information with the Coordinating Committee on the next call
- b. NIEHS is working with NH to respond to questions from a recent Senate briefing.
- c. NIEHS will assist ATSDR in its 8-community exposure assessment study.

5. **FDA**

- a. No new updates to share.